

COVID-19

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020

COVID CASE RATE GRAPH

New graph shows the County's progress in meeting one of the required metrics to move into phase 2

PRESS CONFERENCE HELD VIRTUALLY (5/26/20)

Guest: Meghan King, Public Health Educator, Washington Poison Control

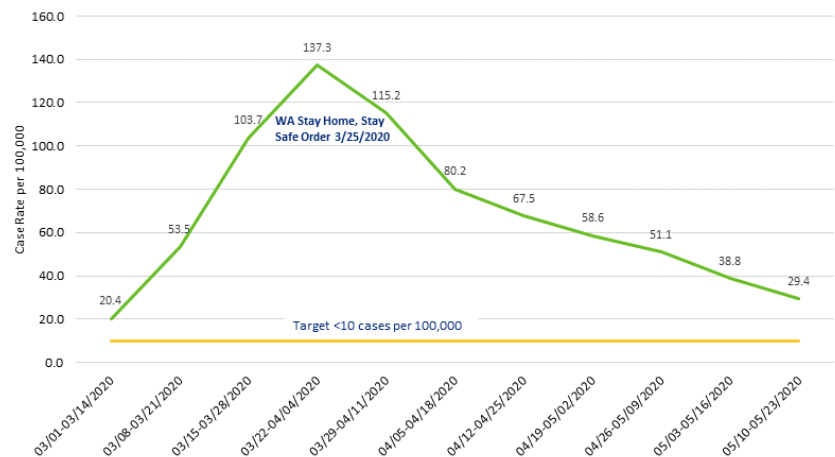
WA STATE CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE UPDATE

PHASE 2 VARIANCE CRITERIA FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COVID-19 CASE RATE PER 100,000 FOR 2-WEEK ROLLING PERIODS (MARCH 1 - MAY 23, 2020)

Snohomish Health District releases new graph that shows the county case rate per 100,000 people. This chart will help visually track our performance on the new metric.



Local Press Conference Held Virtually

Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers was joined by Dr. Chris Spitters the Health Officer for the Snohomish Health District and Meghan King, a Public Health Educator with the Washington Poison Center. They provided an update on the County's response to COVID-19, including information and safety tips from the Washington Poison Center.

The video is available at <https://www.snohd.org/495/COVID-19-General-Information>

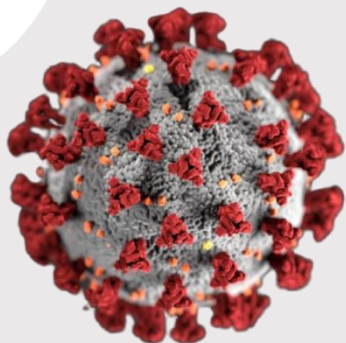
Washington State Coronavirus Response Joint Information Center

The WA State Coronavirus Response Joint Information Center provided an update on the COVID-19 response in Washington State, including an update on farmworker and factory outbreak investigations. Participants included: Raquel Bono, John Wiesman, Kathy Lofy, Scott Lindquist, Charissa Fotinos, David Postman, Reed Schuler, Maria Couragen.

Tune into [TVW](#) to watch the recording.

PHASE 2 VARIANCE CRITERIA FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

In a Zoom media availability Friday, health officer Dr. Chris Spitters shared an overview of where Snohomish County currently stands in regards to a Phase 2 variance. Guidelines and criteria were provided to the Health District last week.



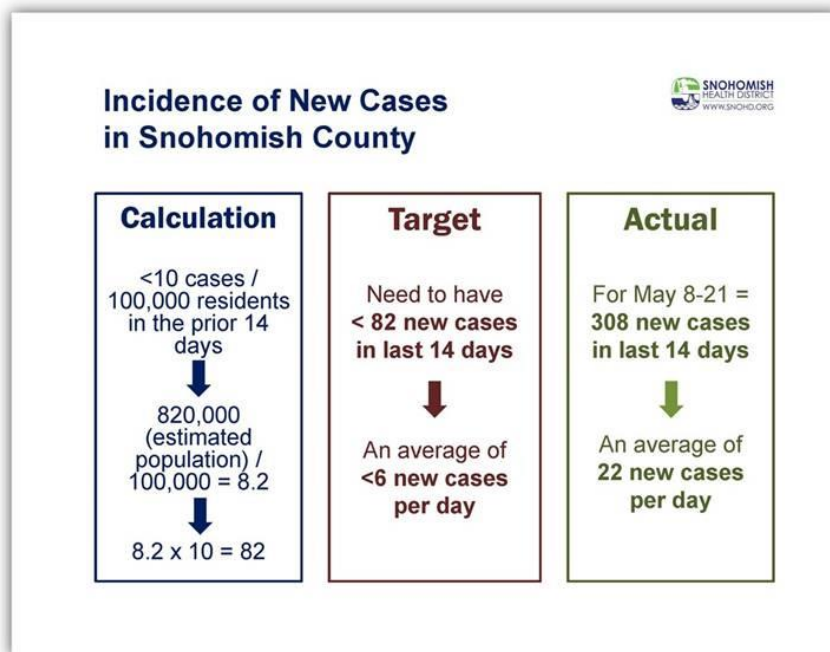
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PHASE 2 VARIANCE CRITERIA FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY (CON'T)

CARES ACT FUNDING

MULTISYMP TOM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN (MIS-C)

It is clear that Snohomish County still has a way to go before meeting the target for new cases over a 14-day period. Dr. Spitters shared the calculation below, and the [full video](#) and [transcript](#) are now available online.



Partners are working to pull together all of the necessary data points, and updates on progress will be shared later this week.

CARES ACT FUNDING

As a part of the [CARES Act package in Snohomish County recently approved](#), \$10.9M was appropriated to the Snohomish Health District. These funds will be used to add more staff and resources focused on disease investigation, testing and community outreach.

"We are grateful for the continued partnership with Snohomish County in this coordinated response," said Shawn Frederick, administrative officer for the Health District. "The allocation authorized by the County Council will allow us to quickly ramp up contact tracing and testing capacity needed to meet the Phase 2 variance criteria released this week."

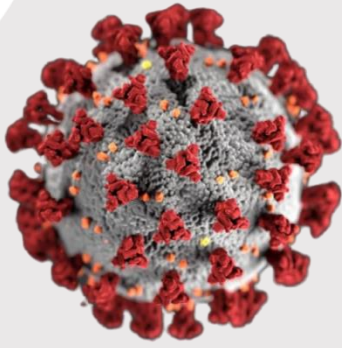
MULTISYMP TOM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN

As announced in a [joint press release](#) Friday, there has been one case of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19 in an adolescent from Snohomish County. The patient received treatment at Seattle Children's Hospital.

This case is one of only two reported in Washington state residents to date. Health care providers in the United Kingdom were the first to recognize cases in late April, and providers in other states have identified cases as well. Following increased reports of previously healthy children presenting with a severe inflammatory syndrome with Kawasaki disease-like symptoms, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [issued a health advisory](#) last Thursday with a case definition.

The current case definition includes the following:

- Under the age of 21, with a fever, laboratory evidence of inflammation, and severe illness involving more than two organs that requires hospitalization; AND



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COVID-19 AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DRIVE-THRU TESTING

CONTACT TRACING

- No other plausible diagnoses; AND
- Positive COVID-19 test, or exposure to a confirmed case, within the four weeks prior to the onset of symptoms.

Parents or caregivers should call their primary care providers if their child is showing new or unusual symptoms, such as a persistent fever or headache, abdominal pain with or without diarrhea, fatigue, and respiratory symptoms such as shortness of breath.

"While the vast majority of children appear to have mild or asymptomatic infection, it's important to remember that—although rare—some children can develop serious complications like these," said Dr. Spitters. "Our thoughts are with the young patient, their family and the care team at Seattle Children's, and we wish for a speedy recovery."

Given privacy concerns, public health officials will not release additional information on these cases.

COVID-19 AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The pandemic has amplified existing challenges in the community. Where there were cracks before, they've gotten wider, and people who were struggling to climb out are facing more obstacles. Many in Snohomish County are dealing with illness, loss, disconnects from social circles and supports, and/or economic hardship.

Domestic violence is one of the issues that is exacerbated during this crisis. This can include physical, emotional, or sexual abuse of children and adults.

A full understanding of just how much of an impact this pandemic has had on those experiencing domestic violence won't be possible for many months or, more likely, years.

But to get a better understanding of what is being seen now, what resources are available, and how people can help, the Health District reached out to some local experts. [A new blog on domestic violence and COVID-19 was published today.](#) It includes insights and resources shared by Dawson Place Child Advocacy Center, Providence Intervention Center for Assault and Abuse, and Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County.

DRIVE-THRU TESTING

Due to the shorter week, the Snohomish Health District will have one day of community-based testing. Testing appointments will be on Thursday, May 28 outside the Sno-Isle Libraries branch located at 311 Maple Ave in Snohomish. Registration will open on Tuesday morning, with appointments beginning at 9 a.m. and the last slot starting at 2 p.m.

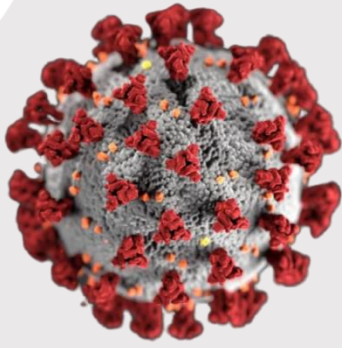
These community-based testing sites are being operated by the Snohomish Health District, with volunteer support from the Medical Reserve Corps. This test will not use the rapid test machines, but rather the regular nasal swabs that are sent to a lab. Results are expected to be communicated back to individuals within 2-3 days.

Criteria for testing and registration details remain the same. Updates and registration information is available at www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing.

CONTACT TRACING

Just as [testing is a key piece](#) of the long-term response to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), disease investigation and contact tracing are crucial, as well.

These topics have generated a number of questions, as well as concerns and rumors. The Health District published [a new blog on contact tracing this week](#) to help address some of those questions.



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CASE COUNTS

WEBINAR ON MIS-C

CASE COUNTS

Updated case counts are done daily Monday through Friday, with any changes over the weekend included in the Monday updates. Yesterday the Health District published its updated [weekly report on COVID-19 and long-term care facilities](#).

For more information please read SHD's [news release](#).

SnoHD
@SnoHD

Drive-thru testing this week will be on Thursday, May 28, in Snohomish.

More info: [snohd.org/drive-thru-testing](https://www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing)

**Drive-Thru Testing
Thursday, May 28**

Drive-thru testing will be available in Snohomish on **May 28**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Testing will be in the parking lot at the Snohomish Sno-Isle Libraries branch.

Register for an appointment & find more info at
www.snohd.org/drive-thru-testing

Testing by appointment. Results should be available in 2-3 days.

Testing is for people who are sick and have developed any of the following symptoms within the last 14 days.

- Fever greater than 100.4 degrees
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

 SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT
WWW.SNOHD.ORG

8:43 AM · May 26, 2020 · Twitter Web App

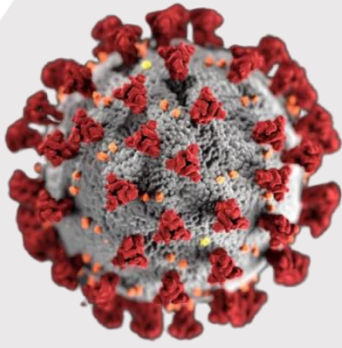
Webinar on Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Associated with COVID-19: Thursday, May 28 at 10:30 A.M.

Join the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada and their guest speakers, Patricia Frost, RN, MS, PHN, PNP, Vice Chair National Pediatric Disaster Coalition, and Pam Farber, RN, EMT-P, Public Health Advisor, FirstWatch, who will present the latest information on MIS-C, and what EMS needs to know for patients and families.

MIS-C is a new syndrome that has been identified in multiple countries in the past few weeks which seems to be associated with COVID-19 infection, even if COVID was asymptomatic or unrecognized. It manifests itself as a Kawasaki-like illness and/or as Toxic Shock-Like Syndrome. It needs to be recognized as early as possible, so that monitoring, treatment, and testing can be started early in its course for the best outcomes. That makes it essential for Pre-hospital & Hospital Providers to be aware of this new syndrome, as well as looking for signs and symptoms when evaluating those younger than 21.

For details and how to join, [click here](#)





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SOUTH COUNTY FIRE COVID-19 PROCEDURE MANUAL AND GUIDE

COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT NUMBERS FOR APRIL 2020

South County Fire COVID-19 Procedure Manual and N95 Decontamination Guide



FirstWatch created a hub of the latest versions of these and supporting documents: www.firstwatch.net/hi/snoco.

To view and bookmark the hub, [click here](#).

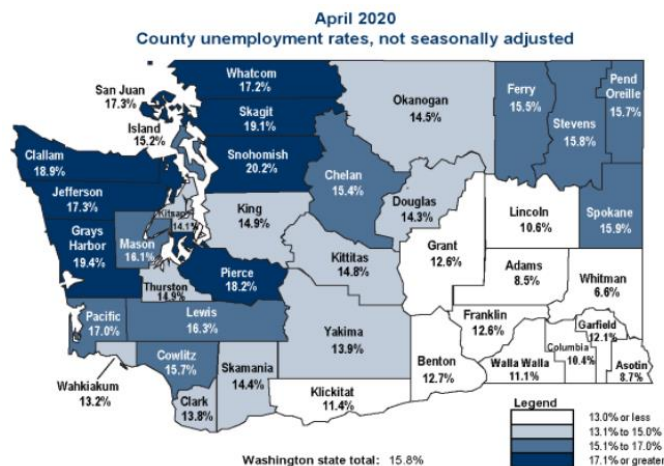
County Unemployment Numbers for April 2020 Released Today; Snohomish County Highest Unemployment in the State

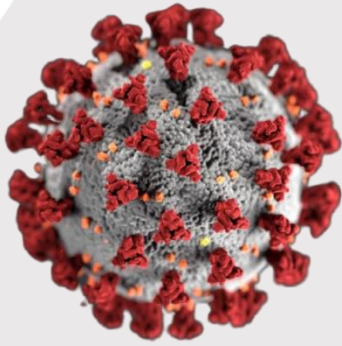
The Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD) released new county unemployment rates and employment data.

ESD would like to remind people that unemployment rates at the county level are not seasonally adjusted because the sample size is too small to accommodate that additional analysis. Therefore, they should not be compared directly to the seasonally adjusted statewide rate that they announced last week [Monthly employment report](#).

The following information has NOT been seasonally adjusted:

Snohomish County, 2020				
Month	Civilian labor force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment rate
March	437,726	412,150	25,576	5.8%
April	453,361	361,978	91,383	20.2%





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UNEMPLOYMENT (CON'T)

The following information has been seasonally adjusted:

Washington's economy significantly **decreased by 527,000 jobs in April** (11,100 in March) and the **unemployment rate increased to 15.4%** (5.1% in March), compared to the United States average of **14.7%** (**4.4%** in March).

	April 2020 (Preliminary)	March 2020 (Revised)	April 2019 (Revised)	March 2019 (Revised)
United States				
Unemployment rate				
Seasonally adjusted	14.7%	4.4%	3.6%	3.8%
Washington				
Unemployment rate	15.4%	5.1%	4.4%	4.5%
Resident labor force	3,957,300	3,890,700	3,889,600	3,882,400
Unemployed	610,700	198,600	172,500	173,800
Seattle/Bellevue/Everett				
Unemployment rate	14.5%	5.6%	3.0%	3.0%
Resident labor force	1,713,200	1,709,400	1,719,683	1,716,757
Unemployed	247,800	95,900	51,136	51,976

**Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refers to jobs, not people. For example, if a person holds two positions, these positions are counted as two jobs in the employment series. In the section titled "Unemployment," these positions refer to individuals, not jobs. In this case, a person holding two jobs is counted only once.*

Estimated one-month employment change by industry, seasonally adjusted

Washington state, March 2020 to April 2020

Source: Employment Security Department/Labor Market and Economic Analysis; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics

Updated: May 20, 2020

Total nonfarm	-527,000
Mining and logging	-500
Information	-3,200
Financial activities	-7,600
Transportation, warehousing and utilities	-9,500
Wholesale trade	-12,700
Manufacturing	-27,500
Government	-28,500
Other services	-31,200
Professional and business services	-35,300
Retail trade	-45,600
Education and health services	-66,700
Construction	-81,000
Leisure and hospitality	-177,700

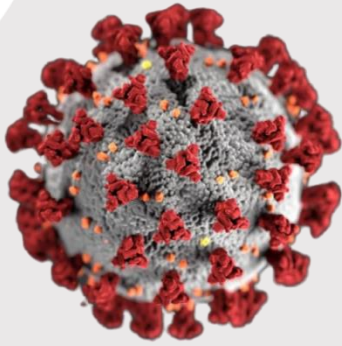
For more information please read ESD's [Facts & Figures](#).

Please visit the Governor's webpage to view a [list of resources](#) for unemployment and personal finance amid COVID-19.

Whether You are Receiving ESD Benefits or Not, Protect Yourself from Fraudsters

Want to prevent being targeted, or find out if you have been? There is a simple way to find out, if you work in Washington State: Create an account with the unemployment office. Here's how to do it:

1. Set up a Secure Access Washington account (SAW).
<https://secure.esd.wa.gov/home/>
2. Sign into your account and begin the process to file for unemployment. Don't worry – you won't actually be filing for unemployment!



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UNEMPLOYMENT (CON'T)

LABOR & INDUSTRIES ANNOUNCES NEW EMERGENCY RULE

3. At the "verify my identity" step (see screenshot below), you will be able to see if anyone has accessed your account, or filed a claim on your behalf.
4. Enter your email to verify your account.

The Employment Security Department recommends the following steps if you have already been a victim of this fraud:

- Report it at [this website](https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/unemployment-benefits-fraud):
<https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment/unemployment-benefits-fraud>
Note: Some of the letters from the Employment Security Department said people should send sensitive information to an email address. That is old content. Now they have the secure online reporting form.
- Go to the FTC identity theft website: www.identitytheft.gov for great resources on reporting.
- Request your free credit reports via www.annualcreditreport.com and review them for other fraudulent activities.
- Go to atg.wa.gov/recovering-identity-theft-or-fraud for additional [tips](#) from the Washington State Attorney General.
- Or call toll-free: 1-800-246-9763

Note: They are receiving an extremely high number of calls and the fastest way to report fraud is with the form above.

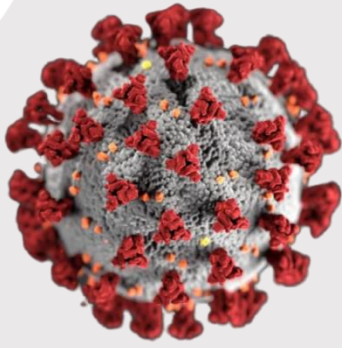
Businesses Ignoring Pandemic Closure Orders Can be Cited and Fined Under Emergency Rules Filed Today, May 26

Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) announced that Washington businesses that decide to open or operate in direct violation of Gov. Inslee's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order may be cited and fined for unsafe workplace conditions under emergency rules filed today by the state Department of Labor & Industries.

The closure order and the [Safe Start Plan](#) to reopen businesses are in place to keep workers and the public safe and to prevent the spread of the easily transmissible coronavirus.

The emergency rules, enacted at the direction of the Governor, take effect immediately. They give the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) the authority to cite businesses for being open or for operating in a way that is purposely defying the phased-in approach and, as a result, putting their workers at risk.

For more information please read L&I's [news release](#).



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IRS ANNOUNCES PRE-PAID DEBIT CARD PROGRAM

69% OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS HAVE RESPONDED TO 2020 CENSUS

IRS Announces Prepaid Debit Cards for Millions of Economic Impact Payments

Nearly four million people are being sent their Economic Impact Payment by prepaid debit card, instead of paper check. The determination of which taxpayers receive a debit card was made by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, another part of the Treasury Department that works with the IRS to handle distribution of the payments.

These Economic Impact Payment Cards arrive in a plain envelope from Money Network Cardholder Services. The Visa name will appear on the front of the card; the back of the card has the name of the issuing bank, MetaBank®, N.A. Information included with the card will explain that the card is an Economic Impact Payment Card.

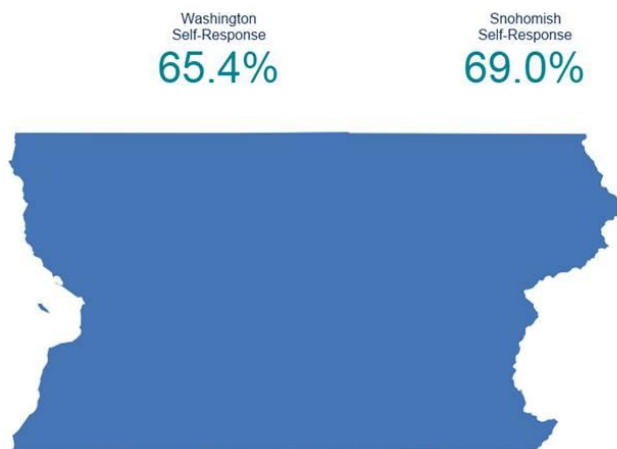
Those who receive Economic Impact Payment by prepaid debit card can do the following without any fees:

- Make purchases online and at any retail location where Visa is accepted
- Get cash from in-network ATMs
- Transfer funds to their personal bank account
- Check their card balance online, by mobile app, or by phone

This free, prepaid card also provides consumer protections available to traditional bank account owners, including protection against fraud, loss, and other errors.

For more information please read the IRS' [announcement](#).

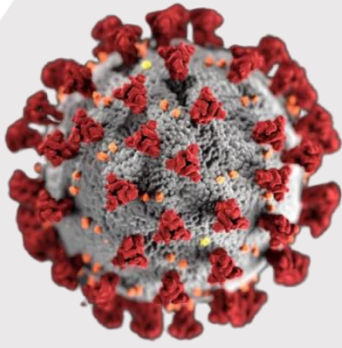
69% of Households in Snohomish County Have Responded to the 2020 Census. Up 0.5% from Last Week. City of Brier Leading the State.



What

The Census can be completed online, by phone, or by mail. Of the **69%** of households in Snohomish County who have responded to the 2020 Census, **62%** chose to respond online. **The City of Brier in Snohomish County is leading Washington State with a response rate of 84.9%!**

Note: The Census form does not include a citizenship question.



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**69% OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY
HOUSEHOLDS HAVE RESPONDED TO
2020 CENSUS (CON'T)**

**ARLINGTON MAYOR CONVENES
ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK
FORCE**

When

April 1 was Census Day. During March 12-20, households received the first of several invitations to participate in the 2020 Census. This invitation included a unique ID code that can be used to complete the Census online. Please remember to go online, with or without that code, and fill out the Census form at www.my2020census.gov.

Why

A complete Census count ensures Snohomish County receives its fair share of federal resources, as significant funding is at stake for other federal programs that families and communities rely on, including Head Start, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Medicare and Medicaid.

To check city response rates please visit the Census Bureau's [webpage](#).

Arlington Mayor Invites Business Leaders To Join Economic Recovery Task Force

Arlington Mayor Barb Tolbert has invited a group of diverse business leaders to join an Arlington Economic Recovery task force to create a framework to reestablish the economy and workforce in Arlington, and to identify any obstacles. This committee is part of a city-wide effort to identify strategies and resource needs to kick start the local economy, following the disruption caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. The group will meet with video conferencing to share needs, ideas, and requests, to begin the long economic recovery effort ahead.

There are similar advisory boards at the county and state level. The Arlington task force will feed ideas and information to the countywide economic recovery task force, chaired by County Councilmember Nate Nehring, which Mayor Tolbert is a member.

For more information please read the [article](#).

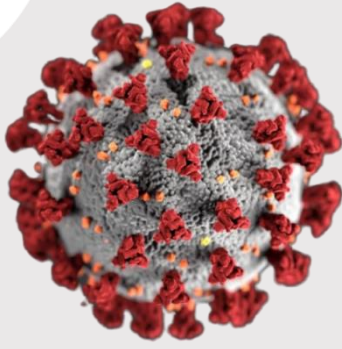
Gov. Inslee Letter Requests Extension of National Guard Mission

Last week Representatives Rick Larsen, Derek Kilmer, and Maria Cantwell sent a [letter](#) requesting an extension of Title 32 authority and funding to July 31, 2020 to ensure members of the National Guard can continue to serve their communities and keep Washingtonians safe.

Governor Jay Inslee also sent a [letter](#) to the Trump administration requesting an extension of authority and additional funding for Washington National Guard employment in support of COVID-19 pandemic emergency response operations through July 31, 2020.

The letter reads, in part:

"This nationally declared emergency is causing second and third order effects that will last long beyond the immediate threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. ... Current Washington National Guard-fielded support includes Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS), building testing kits, and food bank distribution support. Additionally, National Guard planners assist in coordination with our COVID-19 Food Security Team and other agencies to



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**GOV. INSLEE LETTER REQUESTS
NATIONAL GUARD EXTENSION**

SHOWERING STATION NOW OPEN

meet the health and welfare needs of Washingtonians through our phased re-opening plan.

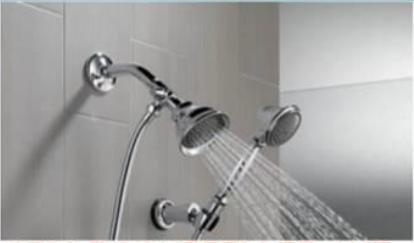
"Current National Guard response missions are absolutely critical to the state's efforts to sustain a safe and responsible opening of our economy. The state of Washington continues to need the National Guard's unique military administrative, logistics, and operational support to COVID-19 pandemic missions."

More than 1,200 soldiers and airmen are supporting the state's COVID-19 response. As of May 20, 2020, the Washington National Guard has delivered more than 1 million meals to struggling families at food banks across the state, tested nearly 2,300 people at community-based testing sites, and built more than 30,000 test kits.

For more information please read the Governor's [news release](#) and full [letter](#).

Showering Station in Everett Opens Today, May 26 through September

Snohomish County Human Services coordinated with Pioneer Human Services to open a shower station at the former YMCA location in Everett. The showering station opened today and is available now through September 30, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday – Friday.




2720 ROCKEFELLER AVE
SHOWER STATION

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM-6PM

5/26/2020 - 9/30/2020

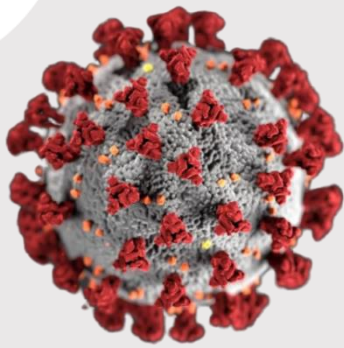
- 30 minutes of restroom time
- Last showers begin at 5:30 pm
- Social distancing in place
- Hygiene Kits available
- Towels provided

For more information, call (425) 285-7700



PIONEER
HUMAN SERVICES
A CHANCE FOR CHANGE

In collaboration with Snohomish County and Community Partners



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**NEW DOH BLOG POST:
DON'T BE FOOLED BY COVID-19
MISINFORMATION**

New DOH Blog Post: Don't Be Fooled by COVID-19 Misinformation

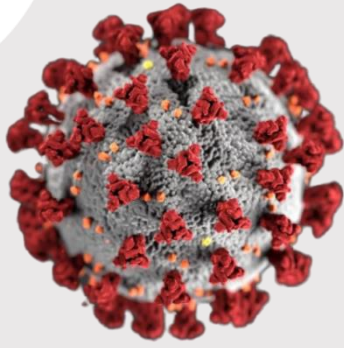
The World Health Organization has said that not only do we have a pandemic, but we also have an infodemic going on. An infodemic is too much information — some accurate and some not — that makes it hard for people to tell the difference between reliable information and harmful speculation. Don't get fooled by misinformation!

DOH counters common myths with the following facts:

- **FACT:** 5G mobile networks DO NOT spread COVID-19
- **FACT:** The government IS NOT going to force some people into quarantine facilities.
- **FACT:** COVID-19 DOES NOT spread easily from pets to people.
- **FACT:** Cloth face coverings WILL NOT decrease your oxygen.
- **FACT:** All the counties in the state WILL (probably) NOT be open June 1
- **FACT:** Camping at state parks IS NOT allowed (yet!)

For more information please read DOH's [blog post](#).





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**NEW DOH BLOG POST:
KEEP YOUR FACE CLEAN AND
DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE!**

**NEW DOH BLOG POST:
SUPPORT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH BY
TAKING CONTROL OF YOUR
SOCIAL MEDIA**

New DOH Blog Post:

Keep Your Hands Clean. And Don't Touch Your Face!

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) published a new blog post reminding the community to keep hands clean and avoid touching your face. DOH advises that for most situations — like driving, running errands, using an ATM, pumping gas, or pushing a shopping cart — wearing gloves is not a helpful way to protect yourself. It would be more helpful to use hand sanitizer frequently while running errands and be careful not to touch your face. Then, be sure to wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds when you get home!

There are some times when you should wear gloves:

- When you are cleaning and disinfecting your home. Look at the labels on your cleaning products. They may recommend that you wear gloves while using them. Be sure to open a window or turn on a fan to keep fresh air moving in the room you are cleaning.
- If you are caring for someone who is sick with COVID-19 at home, use disposable gloves when cleaning the area around the person who is sick and when touching anything that had body fluids on it. Do not try to disinfect or reuse the gloves. Throw them away and wash your hands.

For more information please read DOH's [blog post](#).

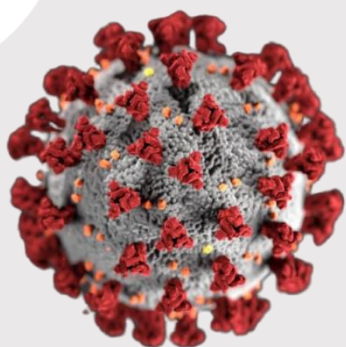
New DOH Blog Post: Support Your Mental Health by Taking Control of Your Social Media

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) advises that sometimes, spending extra time on social media can cause worry, anxiety, and a feeling of exhaustion. DOH's blog post offers some ways to adjust your social media habits to support your mental and emotional well-being:

- Limit the amount of time you spend on social media
- Follow things that make you happy
- Unfollow, hide, or mute accounts that upset you
- Share what you would want to see
- Spread facts not fear

For more information please read DOH's [blog post](#).





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CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Please note: The statistics are also available on the [Snohomish Health District website](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211** for help. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**.

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of May 26, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Confirmed	2,932
Probable	366
Deceased	144

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 2:00 p.m.
Arlington	125 (112 recovered)
Bothell*	217 (173 recovered)
Brier	19 (19 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	334 (281 recovered)
Everett	966 (730 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	29 (21 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	120 (106 recovered)
Lynnwood	616 (509 recovered)
Marysville	247 (204 recovered)
Mill Creek	53 (42 recovered)
Monroe	81 (66 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	111 (93 recovered)
Mukilteo	58 (54 recovered)
Snohomish	152 (133 recovered)
Stanwood	101 (87 recovered)
Sultan	8 (8 recovered)
Tulalip	21 (17 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (11 recovered)
Woodway	8 (8 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.